

petiole but very slightly decurrent, the plant of the Upsala Garden would appear to have been the species now considered.

*Scrophularia lanceolata* Pursh, Fl. Am. Sept. 2: 419. 1814.

"In wet meadows and woods: Pennsylvania." Description apparently of this. The type of this should be verified, but the description of the petioles as not ciliate, and the lateness of the time of flowering would indicate that Pursh described as new the original *marilandica*.

*Scrophularia nodosa marilandica* (L.) A. Gray, Syn. Fl. N. Am. 2. I: 258. 1878.

*Scrophularia nodosa lanceolata* (Pursh) M. E. Jones, Contrib. West. Bot. 12: 67. 1908.

Flowering from late July to late September, fruiting from early August into October.

Open woodland, loam, in potassic soil, frequent or northward rare through the area above the Fall-line; occasional in western Long Island, and near the Delaware River in the Middle District of New Jersey. Ranges from Massachusetts and southern Ontario to Georgia, Arkansas and Nebraska.

(To be continued.)

## TUMION TAXIFOLIUM IN GEORGIA

BY ROLAND M. HARPER

The Florida "savin" or "stinking cedar," *Tumion taxifolium* (Arn.) Greene (*Torreya taxifolia* Arn.) an evergreen tree closely related to the yews, ever since its discovery by H. B. Croom near Aspalaga in western Middle Florida about 85 years ago, has been celebrated in botanical circles on account of its very restricted distribution and its belonging to a genus which was widespread in pre-historic times but is now practically confined to Florida, California, China and Japan.\*

\* Existing knowledge about this tree is pretty well summed up in the following works: Asa Gray, Am. Agriculturist 34: 266-267. 1875 (reprinted with some alterations in "Scientific Papers of Asa Gray," 1: 188-196. 1889); A. H. Curtiss, Tenth Census U. S. 9: 521. 1884; A. W. Chapman, Bot. Gaz. 10: 251-254. 1885; G. V. Nash, Bull. Torrey Club 23: 96. 1896; H. C. Cowles, Rep. 8th

For many years previous to the time herein noted it was known only on the east side of the Apalachicola River in Gadsden and Liberty Counties, Florida, from Chattahoochee to Alum Bluff, a distance of about twenty miles. (There have been unverified rumors of its occurrence away from the river in Jackson and Wakulla Counties.) Its usual habitat is shaded bluffs and ravines, in the neighborhood of outcrops of the Chattahoochee formation (an argillaceous limestone), and most of it is close to the river, though some specimens have been seen a mile or two up the valleys of tributary creeks. The locality oftenest visited is near River Junction, a small place near the northern edge of the state, which has had one railroad for over forty years, and four for the last twelve years. On account of the restricted range of the tree, some writers have imagined it to be on the verge of extinction; but it is quite abundant yet, especially in the vicinity of Aspalaga, where it was first discovered, and it does not seem to be in any immediate danger. (Its near relative *Taxus Floridana*, curiously enough, grows in the same region and is much rarer, but somehow it has attracted very little attention among botanists. The *Tumion* may have achieved notoriety mainly through being named first for Dr. Torrey, and having been made the object of a pilgrimage by Dr. Gray in the days when it bore the name of *Torreya*.)

In August, 1903, while botanizing in extreme southwestern Georgia, I remembered that this famous tree grew within a mile or two of the Georgia line, and thought it would be a simple matter to find it on the Georgia side, a matter which no one apparently had made any special effort to do. So I went one day to River Junction and had a native guide me to the nearest colony of the tree, and after taking a good look at it I spent nearly two days walking up along and near the river to Bainbridge; but I saw no *Tumion* outside of the colony first shown to me. In the light of subsequent developments it is now evident that after crossing the state line I stayed in the alluvial bottoms of the river too long, and did not turn out into the bluffs until I

Int. Geog. Cong. 599. 1905; Sellards & Gunter, Ann. Rep. Fla. Geol. Surv. 2: 262. 1910; R. M. Harper, Bull. Torrey Club 32: 149. 1905; *Torreya* 11: 225-226. 1911; Ann. Rep. Fla. Geol. Surv. 6: 212, 215, 354, 411, 412. 1914.

had passed beyond the northern limit of the tree, perhaps a mile or two from the line. No detailed maps of the neighborhood were available then (or now), which made it difficult to get my bearings.

The imaginary line which forms the greater part of the boundary between Georgia and Florida is supposed to take the most direct course from the confluence of the Flint and Chattahoochee Rivers to the head of the St. Mary's, bearing about S. 87° E.; but surveying a straight line to connect two points over 150 miles apart involves serious engineering difficulties, and three lines were run at different times in the last century, varying a mile or so near the middle. The northernmost was finally selected as the boundary, but at the point under consideration, about a mile from the western extremity of the line, the possible error is only a few yards.

While working in Florida between 1908 and 1915 I visited River Junction a few times, and saw the *Tumion* near there, but made no further effort to determine its northern limit. But on August 16, 1918, while on business for the U. S. Bureau of Plant Industry, I had a few hours between trains there, during which I explored the neighborhood a little, not having been there at that season since 1903.

The northern boundary of the grounds of the Florida Insane Hospital at Chattahoochee, about a mile and a half north of River Junction, is marked by a stout wire fence which is said to be exactly on the state line, and terminates on the west about a mile from the river, at a road running approximately north and south. Having followed the boundary fence until I came to the road, I turned north into Georgia, and about a hundred yards farther on, seeing some interesting-looking woods at the left of the road, I entered them. A few steps down the slope, a ravine appeared at my right (*i.e.*, north), and in that I found several trees of *Tumion taxifolium*, some about a foot in diameter and forty feet tall, together with its common associates, *Magnolia grandiflora*, *Fagus*, *Liriodendron*, *Ilex opaca*, *Acer Floridanum*, *Pinus glabra*, *Quercus alba*, *Pinus Taeda*, *Cercis*, *Ostrya* and *Liquidambar* (to mention trees only).

The mere extension of the known range of this tree northward about a mile would hardly be worth mentioning, but for the fact that the species has been written about so much, and the new locality being in a different state will necessitate a modification of the statements about it in books about North American trees, Georgia plants, etc. The present indications are that it does not extend into Georgia more than a mile. A few specimens were collected and afterwards distributed to the leading American herbaria, for the benefit of persons who may attach more importance to the possibility of identifying the species (even such an unmistakable one as this) wrongly than to that of making a false or erroneous or inadequate statement on the label about the locality. (In other words, there are probably some taxonomists who if no specimens existed to back it would not take cognizance of this report of a new locality, but seeing a specimen labeled Georgia in large type would not worry about the possibility of a slight error in latitude.)

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## PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLUB

MARCH 25, 1919

The second meeting for March was a special evening meeting held in the Laboratory Building of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Tuesday, March 25, under the joint auspices of the Club and Garden. Vice-president Gager called the meeting to order at 8:25 P.M. There were 53 persons present. No business was transacted.

The program consisted of a series of motion pictures on plant life shown by courtesy of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, whose representative, Dr. R. B. Harvey, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Plant Physiology and Fermentation Investigations, gave the lecture.

The first film showed a series of views of various operations performed in connection with strawberry culture in Kentucky, cultivating, hoeing, inspecting, picking, sorting, packing, loading, refrigerating and consuming were among the operations depicted.